(C) collecting the gas from which the condensables have been removed, characterized in that the supersonic inertia separator is located in the vicinity of the wellhead of a natural gas production well for the separation of condensables from the natural gas stream produced through said well.

2. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein step B) a swirling motion~~ is induced to the supersonic stream of fluid thereby ~~causing the condensables~~ to flow to a radially outer section of a collecting ~~zone~~ in the stream, followed by the subsonic or supersonic ~~extraction of the~~ condensables into an outlet stream from the radially outer ~~section of the collecting zone.~~

3. (Once Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein the swirling motion is imparted by a wing placed in the supersonic flow region.

4. (Once Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of: creating a shock wave in the stream that is upstream of the collecting zone and downstream of the location where the swirling motion is imparted.

5. (Once Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein the shock wave is created by inducing the stream of fluid to flow through a diffuser.

6. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising adding a hydrate inhibition component to the outlet stream extracted from the radially outer section of the collecting zone.

7. (Once Amended) A device for removing condensables from natural gas according to the method of claim 1, the device comprising:

an acceleration section wherein gas is accelerated to a supersonic velocity;

a swirl imparting section that imparts a swirling motion to the gas;

a collection zone from which a gas stream containing reduced content of condensables is removed; and

a radially outer section of the collecting zone with a radially outer section from which the condensables can be collected, characterized in that the device is located in the vicinity of the wellhead of a natural gas production well and is designed for the separation of condensables from a natural gas stream produced through said well.

8. (Once Amended) The device of claim 7 further comprising a shock wave initiator downstream of the swirl imparting section.

9. (Once Amended) The device of claim 8 ~~wherein the shock wave initiator~~ is a diffuser, located so that the shock wave is upstream the collecting zone.

10. (Once Amended) The device of claim 7, ~~wherein~~ the acceleration section comprises a Laval-type inlet of the conduit, and ~~wherein~~ the smallest cross-sectional flow area of the diffuser is larger than the ~~smallest~~ cross-sectional flow area of the Laval-type inlet, and ~~wherein~~ the ~~swirl~~ imparting section that imparts a swirling motion to the stream comprises a ~~wing~~ device.

11. (Once Amended) A wellhead assembly comprising a device as claimed in claim 7, ~~downstream of the wellhead choke.~~

12. (Once Amended) A wellhead assembly as claimed in claim 11, comprising a sub-sea wellhead.

13. ~~(Once Amended)~~ ~~The device of claim 7, wherein the radially outer section of~~ the collecting zone debouches into an annular first outlet for collecting a condensables enriched fluid stream and a central section of the collecting ~~zone~~ debouches into a tubular second outlet for collecting a condensables depleted fluid stream, characterized in that the tubular second outlet is formed by a substantially straight tubular which remains substantially co-axial to the annular first outlet along at least a substantial portion of its length.

14. (Once Amended) The device of claim 13, wherein the annular first outlet has in downstream direction a cylindrical or diverging shape.

15. (Once Amended) The device of claim 14, wherein the tubular second outlet has in downstream direction a cylindrical or diverging shape and provides a co-axial vortex finder duct within the annular first outlet.

Respectfully submitted,

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